

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_, SERIES 2010**

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE KENTUCKY LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION (LRC) STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF MERGING THE JEFFERSON COUNTY, KY SUBURBAN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS WITH THE LOUISVILLE DIVISION OF FIRE.**

**Sponsored By:** Councilman Dan Johnson

**WHEREAS**, on November 4, 2000, the voters of this community elected to merge the governments of the City of Louisville and Jefferson County, KY by approving House Bill (HB) 647 known as “The Merger Bill” and which was incorporated into Kentucky Revised Statute (KRS) Chapter 67C; and

**WHEREAS**, in January 2003, the City of Louisville and Jefferson County officially merged into one governmental body called Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Government or Louisville Metro for short; and

**WHEREAS**, at the same time KRS Chapter 67C was amended to include an Urban Service District, KRS 67C.113 was also revised to insure the continued existence of taxing and service districts located within the territory of the newly formed merged government; and

**WHEREAS**, upon the formation of Louisville Metro Government, residents living in the old boundaries of the City of Louisville continued to reside in what is known as the Urban Service District; and

**WHEREAS**, those residents living in the Urban Service District are protected by the Louisville Division of Fire, a KRS Chapter 95 Municipal Fire Department; and

**WHEREAS**, also upon the formation of Louisville Metro Government, residents living in the old boundaries outside the former City of Louisville, continue to reside in what is known as the Suburban Service Area; and

**WHEREAS**, residents living the Suburban Service Area, are protected by eighteen (18) KRS Chapter 75 fire protection districts; and

**WHEREAS**, the Louisville Division of Fire employees over 500 career firefighters and covers 65 square miles; and

**WHEREAS**, the Suburban Service Area of Jefferson County is comprised of a combined 1,100 volunteer and career or paid firefighters and encompasses more than 300 square miles; and

**WHEREAS**, upon merger, numerous governmental agencies were combined from the previous local governments including the police, purchasing, public works, parks, etc.; and

**WHEREAS**, since merger, other suburban fire protection districts have merged with each other, which includes Black Mudd and Edgewood merging with the Okolona Fire Protection District and South Dixie Fire merging with the Pleasure Ridge Park Fire Protection District; and

**WHEREAS**, entering into the 7<sup>th</sup> year of existence since merger, the Council would like to commission a study of merging the remaining 18 suburban fire protection districts with the Louisville Division of Fire; and

**WHEREAS**, such a study would have to take into account provisions of KRS 67C.145 which prescribes those allowances allowed in the alteration of service districts, separate taxing districts and changing of boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, this study is necessary so all parties have a better understanding of how or if such a merger can take place.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT (THE COUNCIL) AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION I:** The Council requests the LRC study the feasibility of merging the 18 Jefferson County suburban fire protection districts with the Louisville Division of Fire.

**SECTION II:** Prior to its undertaking such a study, the LRC shall advise the Council of any associated costs that may arise to undertake this study.

**SECTION III:** The Council asks the LRC to report its findings by July 1, 2010 or in the most expedient manner possible, whichever comes first.

**SECTION IV:** Upon the receipt of the LRC's study, the Council will make this study available to the public in hard copy, electronically, and on Metro Government's website.

**SECTION V:** This Resolution shall take effect upon its passage and approval.

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Kathleen J. Herron  
Metro Council Clerk

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Thomas L. Owen  
President of the Council

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Jerry E. Abramson  
Mayor

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Approval Date

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:**

Michael J. O'Connell  
Jefferson County Attorney

BY: \_\_\_\_\_